

REMARKS

This Amendment is responsive to the official action dated April 20, 2007. Claims 1-18 were pending in the application. In the official action, the Examiner rejected claims 1-18, and objected to claims 1, 6, 7, 12, 13, and 18. In this Amendment, claims 1, 6, 7, 12, 13, and 18 have been amended. Claims 1-18 thus remain for consideration.

Applicant submits that the application is now in condition for allowance and requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections in light of the following remarks.

Claim Objections

Claims 1, 6, 7, 12, 13, and 18 were objected to because of informalities.

Claims 1, 6, 7, 12, 13, and 18 have been amended to correct for the informalities. Applicant submits that claims 1, 6, 7, 12, 13, and 18 are now compliant with all formality requirements, and therefore requests that the objections to claims 1, 6, 7, 12, 13, and 18 be withdrawn.

§103 Rejections

Claims 1, 2, 6, 7, 8, 12, 13, 14, and 18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Kimura (U.S. Patent No. 7,102,673) in view of Smith (U.S. Patent No. 6,970,194).

Claims 3, 4, 5, 9, 10, 11, 15, 16, and 17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Kimura in view of Smith as applied to claims 1, 7, and 13, and further in view of Anderson et al. (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2004/0096125).

Applicant respectfully submits that the independent claims (claims 1, 7, and 13) are patentable over Kimura, Smith, and Anderson.

Applicant's invention as recited in the independent claims is directed toward compensating defective pixels of video signals. Each of the claims recites determining a reference pixel having color information that is the most similar to non-defect color information of a defect pixel, calculating an average value of differences between non-defect color information of the defect pixel and corresponding color information of the reference pixel, and compensating defect color information of the defect pixel using the average value. Accordingly, the claims specify that a reference pixel is selected based on information concerning colors other than the defective color(s) of the defective pixel. Further, the claims specify that the defective color information of the defective pixel is compensated using an average value that is based on information concerning colors other than the defective color(s) of the defective pixel.

Neither Kimura, Smith, nor Anderson discloses that a reference pixel is selected based on information concerning colors other than the defective color(s) of the defective pixel. In particular, it is noted that Kimura discloses the detection of a defective pixel using information concerning a color that is the same as a defective color of the defective pixel. Regarding pixel compensation, Kimura merely discloses that an image signal of a defective pixel is set to the average value of image signals of pixels adjacent to the defective pixel. (See e.g. Kimura col. 7, ll. 24-38; col. 8, ll. 17-27; and col. 9, ll. 9-14).

Accordingly, Applicant believes that claims 1, 7, and 13 are patentable over Kimura, Smith, and Anderson - taken either alone or in combination - on at least this basis.

Dependent claims 2-6, 8-12, and 14-18 depend respectively on independent claims 1, 7, and 13. Since dependent claims inherit the limitations of their respective base claims, claims

2-6, 8-12, and 14-18 are believed to be patentable over Kimura, Smith, and Anderson for at least the same reasons discussed in connection with claims 1, 7, and 13.

Applicant respectfully submits that all of the claims now pending in the application are in condition for allowance, which action is earnestly solicited. If any issues remain, or if the Examiner has any further suggestions, he/she is invited to telephone the undersigned at (908) 654-5000.

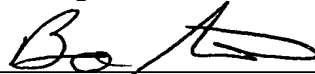
The Examiner is hereby authorized to charge any insufficient fees or credit any overpayment associated with the above-identified application to Deposit Account No. 12-1095.

The Examiner's consideration of this matter is gratefully acknowledged.

Dated: June 22, 2007

Respectfully submitted,

By



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